

# The Spark of Creation

## Judith Clurman at the National Cathedral

### February 20, 2018

## REPERTOIRE

### CANTILLATION

The cantillation of Torah (Hebrew Bible) is an ancient Jewish tradition, dating to the 6th century. This new arrangement of Genesis 1:1 ("In the Beginning") by Judith Clurman features unison voices and a solo cello.

### VAYOMER ELOHIM

Leonard Bernstein's short unison setting of Genesis 1:3 ("Let There Be Light") was premiered on a 1993 concert conducted by Judith Clurman at The Juilliard School. This performance commemorates Bernstein's centenary.

### THE SPARK OF CREATION

"The Spark of Creation" and "Children of Eden" from Broadway giant Stephen Schwartz' musical based on the Book of Genesis receive new choral arrangements by David Chase, specifically written for this concert.

### LA CREATION DU MONDE

An entirely different perspective on Creation comes from African folk mythology, as interpreted by the French composer Darius Milhaud in his short, jazz-influenced 1923 ballet, written after a visit to Harlem.

### HAYDN: THE CREATION

Selected choruses from Haydn's monumental oratorio, which has been celebrated as a masterpiece of classical music since its premiere in Vienna in 1799.



The Biblical story of Creation has been a great inspiration to artists of all eras and genres.

Judith Clurman (Manhattan School of Music, graduate of and former Director of Choral Activities at The Juilliard School) explores a vast array of Creation-inspired music, including brand-new choral arrangements of songs from Stephen Schwartz' *Children of Eden*, a rarely-performed vocal work of Leonard Bernstein entitled "Vayomer Elohim" (Genesis 1:3), a new setting of the ancient Hebrew cantillation of Genesis 1:1 ("B'reshet") and select choruses and arias from Haydn's classical oratorio *The Creation*.

### CONTACT

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## ITINERARY

5 DAYS / 4 NIGHTS (SAT.-WED.)

SOME CUSTOMIZATION IS POSSIBLE. JUST ASK!

**17**  
FEB.

### ARRIVE IN D.C.

Arrive in Washington D.C. by bus or airplane. Free time, with dinner on own, before an evening rehearsal at the festival headquarters hotel.

### REHEARSALS

Morning sightseeing (e.g. Arlington Cemetery). Afternoon and evening rehearsals at the hotel.

**18**  
FEB.

**19**  
FEB.

### REHEARSALS

Morning rehearsal at the hotel. Afternoon sightseeing (e.g. Memorials on the Mall). Dress Rehearsal in the National Cathedral.

### CONCERT

Morning and afternoon free for sightseeing (e.g. Smithsonian visits). Concert in the National Cathedral.

**20**  
FEB.

**21**  
FEB.

### DEPART D.C.

Free time for sightseeing or other activities until the group needs to depart Washington by bus or airplane.